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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ORIGIN NEA-11INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 H-01 FSI-04 PER-01 SY-05
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02
NSC-05 /067 RDRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:RDLORTON:LCB
APPROVED BY NEA/PAB:JACCOON
M:PKENNEDY (INFO)
H:RFLATEN (INFO)
M/FSI:CSCCOON, JR. (INFO)
PER/FCA/TL:JOGDEN (SUBS)-----116178 282226Z /64
R 281906Z MAR 79
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KABUL
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/LER

REVIEWED BY Ch. Naus DATE 5/11/98
() DECLASSIFY () DECLASSIFY IN PART
() EXEMPT () EXEMPT
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FOR INFO ON VA EXEMPTIONS
TO authority to
() DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C, CADR

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E.O. 12065 N/A

TAGS: ASEC, PINS, AF

SUBJECT: ABDUCTION AND DEATH OF AMBASSADOR DUBS: LANGUAGE
SITUATION AT THE KABUL HOTEL

REF: KABUL 2238

1. DEPARTMENT HAS REPLIED TO A LETTER FROM CONGRESSMAN
FINDLEY DATED MARCH 6, IN WHICH FINDLEY EXPRESSED HIS
CONCERN OVER REPORTS THAT "NO AMERICAN OFFICIALS EITHER
IN THE U.S. EMBASSY IN TEHRAN OR IN KABUL ... SPOKE THE
LANGUAGE OF THOSE COUNTRIES," AND STATED HIS INTENTION
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TO OFFER AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZA-

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TION BILL OF 1979, REQUIRING THE "CHIEF POLITICAL OFFICER IN EACH U.S. EMBASSY TO SPEAK THE PRINCIPAL LANGUAGE OF THE STATE IN WHICH THE EMBASSY IS LOCATED."

2. ON MARCH 16, UNDER SECRETARY READ REPLIED TO FINDLEY INDICATING AGREEMENT WITH THE OBJECTIVE AND FORM OF HIS PROPOSED AMENDMENT, BUT NOTING THAT PRESS ACCOUNTS OF THE SITUATION IN KABUL AND TEHRAN HAD BEEN EXAGGERATED. WITH REGARD TO KABUL, THE LETTER READ: "... OUR POLITICAL COUNSELOR IN KABUL COMPLETED 10 MONTHS OF DARI LANGUAGE TRAINING AT FSI IN PREPARATION FOR HIS ASSIGNMENT AND TESTED 2 PLUS 2 BEFORE DEPARTING FOR POST IN JUNE 1977.

HIS DEPUTY IN THE SECTION IS ALSO A DARI SPEAKER."

3. UPON RECEIPT OF REFTEL, DEPTOFF TELEPHONED FINDLEY'S OFFICE TO PASS ON INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN.

4. COPIES OF INCOMING LETTER AND DEPARTMENT'S REPLY WERE POUCHED TO CHARGE MARCH 22. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING COPIES OF ANY NEWS CLIPPINGS WHICH HAVE COME TO EMBASSY'S ATTENTION SO THAT WE CAN TAKE APPROPRIATE FOLLOW-UP ACTION. VANCE

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